

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 13, line 26, to page 14, line 3, which describes Fig. 1, with the following:

Fig. 1 shows the results of the 2% agarose gel electrophoresis of the product of the PCR using the second and third single-stranded oligo DNAs in Example 1. Lanes 2 to 4: known concentrations of the standard DNA, lanes 5 to 7: 0.2 to 5 μ l of the PCR product.

Lane 1. ϕ X174/HaeIII

Lane 2. 363ng/lane HCV cDNA (1865bp)

Lane 3. 72.5ng/lane HCV cDNA (1865bp)

Lane 4. 14.5ng/lane HCV cDNA (1865bp)

Lane 5. PCR product 5 μ l/lane

Lane 6. PCR product 1 μ l/lane

Lane 7. PCR product 0.2 μ l/lane

Lane 8. ϕ X174/HaeIII

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 4-9, which describes Fig. 2, with the following:

Fig. 2 shows the results of the 2% agarose gel electrophoresis after the reactions at various magnesium acetate concentrations in Example 2. The arrow indicates the specific product (about 300 bp). The concentrations of magnesium acetate are expressed in terms of final concentration.

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

U.S. Appln. 10/687,588

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q78097

N: Negative

Numerals logarithmically denote the initial copy number (/test) of the standard DNA

C1: 10^{10} copy/l lane standard DNA

C2: 5×10^{11} copy/l lane standard DNA

S: ϕ X174/HaeIII

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 10-15, which describes Fig. 3, with the following:

Fig. 3 shows the results of the 2% agarose gel electrophoresis after the reactions at various potassium acetate concentrations in Example 3. The arrow indicates the specific product (about 300 bp). The concentrations of potassium acetate are expressed in terms of final concentration.

N: Negative

Numerals logarithmically denote the initial copy number (/test) of the standard DNA

C1: 10^{10} copy/l lane standard DNA

C2: 5×10^{11} copy/l lane standard DNA

S: ϕ X174/HaeIII

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, lines 16-19, which describes Fig. 4, with the following:

Fig. 4 shows the results of the 2% agarose gel electrophoresis after the reactions at various final sorbitol concentrations of 15%, 11.3%, 9% and 7.5% in Example 4. The arrow indicates the specific product (about 300 bp).

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N: Negative

Numerals logarithmically denote the initial copy number (/test) of the standard DNA

C1: 10^{10} copy/l lane standard DNA

C2: 5×10^{11} copy/l lane standard DNA

S: ϕ X174/HaeIII

Please replace the paragraph at page 14, line 24, to page 15, line 3, which describes Fig. 6, with the following:

Fig. 6 shows the results of the electrophoresis on a polyacryl amide gel containing 12% urea after the reaction of the 133mer RNA, the first single-stranded oligo DNA complementary to a neighboring sequence at the 5' end of the specific nucleic acids sequence within the 133mer RNA and various concentrations of RNaseH in Example 6. The arrows indicate the 133mer and the 72mer.

Lane 1. Thermally denatured ϕ X174/HaeIII

Lane 2. Tris-acetate buffer 7×10^{-6} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 3. Tris-acetate buffer 7×10^{-5} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 4. Tris-acetate buffer 7×10^{-4} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 5. Tris-acetate buffer 7×10^{-3} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 6. Tris-acetate buffer RNaseH without addition of RNaseH

Lane 7. Tris-HCl buffer 10^{-5} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 8. Tris-HCl buffer 10^{-4} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 9. Tris-HCl buffer 10^{-3} U/ μ l RNaseH

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
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Lane 10. Tris-HCl buffer 10^{-2} U/ μ l RNaseH

Lane 11. Tris-HCl buffer RNaseH without addition of RNaseH

Please replace the paragraph at page 15, lines 18-20, which describes Fig. 10, with the following:

Fig. 10 shows the results of the 2% agarose gel electrophoresis of the products from the standard RNA (10^6 copies/5 μ l) at various reaction times in Example 10.

N: Negative

6: 10^6 copy/5 μ l, initial copy number of standard DNA

C: 10^{11} copy/l lane standard DNA

S: ϕ X174/HaeIII

Please replace the paragraph at page 16, lines 6-10, which describes Fig. 14, with the following:

Fig. 14 shows the results of the 2% agarose gel electrophoresis after ~~after~~ various times of reactions using the standard RNA (10^6 copies/5 μ l) in the presence of the fourth single-stranded oligo DNA having a modified 3' end (having ddTTP at the 3' end) in Example 12.

N: Negative

6: 10^6 copy/5 μ l, initial copy number of standard DNA

C: 10^{11} copy/l lane standard DNA

S: ϕ X174/HaeIII